#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following header on page 1, line 5:

## Field of Invention

Please insert the following header on page 1, between lines 13 and 14:

## **Background and Summary of Invention**

Please insert the following new paragraphs on page 2, between lines 10 and 11:

## **Brief Description of the Accompanying Drawings**

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of a three-stage Beckman rearrangement process for preparing caprolactam according to an embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is a schematic view of a mixing device that is preferably used as the mixing devices A1, A2 and A3 depicted in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a schematic view of a process for preparing employed in Example 1 below.

# **Detailed Description of the Invention**